

## Complete Summary

### GUIDELINE TITLE

Congenital syphilis. Sexually transmitted diseases treatment guidelines 2006.

### BIBLIOGRAPHIC SOURCE(S)

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Workowski KA, Berman SM.  
Congenital syphilis. Sexually transmitted diseases treatment guidelines 2006.  
MMWR Morb Mortal Wkly Rep 2006 Aug 4;55(RR-11):30-3. [222 references]

### GUIDELINE STATUS

This is the current release of the guideline.

This guideline updates a previous version: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Congenital syphilis. Sexually transmitted diseases treatment guidelines. MMWR Recomm Rep 2002 May 10;51(RR-6):26-8.

### \*\* REGULATORY ALERT \*\*

### FDA WARNING/REGULATORY ALERT

**Note from the National Guideline Clearinghouse:** This guideline references a drug(s) for which important revised regulatory and/or warning information has been released.

- [September 11, 2007, Rocephin \(ceftriaxone sodium\)](#): Roche informed healthcare professionals about revisions made to the prescribing information for Rocephin to clarify the potential risk associated with concomitant use of Rocephin with calcium or calcium-containing solutions or products.

### COMPLETE SUMMARY CONTENT

\*\* REGULATORY ALERT \*\*

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## SCOPE

### DISEASE/CONDITION(S)

Congenital syphilis

### GUIDELINE CATEGORY

Evaluation  
Management  
Prevention  
Screening  
Treatment

### CLINICAL SPECIALTY

Family Practice  
Infectious Diseases  
Internal Medicine  
Obstetrics and Gynecology  
Pediatrics  
Preventive Medicine

### INTENDED USERS

Advanced Practice Nurses  
Health Care Providers  
Managed Care Organizations  
Nurses  
Physician Assistants  
Physicians  
Public Health Departments

### GUIDELINE OBJECTIVE(S)

- To update the Sexually Transmitted Diseases Treatment Guidelines 2002 (*MMWR* 2002;51[No. RR-6])
- To assist physicians and other health-care providers in preventing and treating sexually transmitted diseases (STDs)

### TARGET POPULATION

- Infants born to mothers who have reactive serologic tests for syphilis
- Children who are identified as having reactive serologic tests for syphilis after the neonatal period
- Pregnant women

### INTERVENTIONS AND PRACTICES CONSIDERED

#### Diagnosis/Evaluation

1. Serologic screening of pregnant women for syphilis at the time of first prenatal visit
2. Serologic testing and sexual history of pregnant women at 28 weeks' gestation and at delivery in communities and populations in which the risk for congenital syphilis is high
3. HIV testing in pregnant women with syphilis
4. Examination of all infants born to women who have reactive serologic tests of syphilis for evidence of congenital syphilis (e.g., nonimmune hydrops, jaundice, hepatosplenomegaly, rhinitis, skin rash, and/or pseudoparalysis of an extremity)
5. Pathological examination of the placenta or umbilical cord using fluorescent antitreponemal antibody staining
6. Quantitative nontreponemal serologic test on infant serum (rapid plasma reagin [RPR] or Venereal Disease Research Laboratory [VDRL] test)
7. Darkfield microscopic examination or direct fluorescent antibody staining of suspicious lesions or body fluids
8. Cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) analysis for VDRL test, cell count, and protein
9. Complete blood count (CBC), differential CBC, and platelet count
10. Other tests as clinically indicated (long-bone radiographs, chest radiographs, liver function tests, abdominal ultrasound, ophthalmologic examination, auditory brain stem response)
11. Maternal serology and records review for children with reactive serologic tests after the neonatal period
12. HIV testing for any child at risk for congenital syphilis
13. Follow-up examinations and serologic testing

**Note:** Conducting treponemal tests and routine screening of newborn sera or umbilical cord blood were considered but not recommended.

### **Treatment**

1. Aqueous crystalline penicillin G
2. Procaine penicillin G
3. Benzathine penicillin G
4. Desensitization to penicillin
5. Ceftriaxone only in cases when penicillin is unavailable

**Note:** Ampicillin is considered but not recommended.

### **MAJOR OUTCOMES CONSIDERED**

- Microbiologic cure
- Alleviation of signs and symptoms
- Prevention of sequelae
- Prevention of vertical transmission

## **METHODOLOGY**

### **METHODS USED TO COLLECT/SELECT EVIDENCE**

Searches of Electronic Databases

## **DESCRIPTION OF METHODS USED TO COLLECT/SELECT THE EVIDENCE**

Not stated

## **NUMBER OF SOURCE DOCUMENTS**

Not stated

## **METHODS USED TO ASSESS THE QUALITY AND STRENGTH OF THE EVIDENCE**

Subjective Review

## **RATING SCHEME FOR THE STRENGTH OF THE EVIDENCE**

Not applicable

## **METHODS USED TO ANALYZE THE EVIDENCE**

Systematic Review with Evidence Tables

## **DESCRIPTION OF THE METHODS USED TO ANALYZE THE EVIDENCE**

Beginning in 2004, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) personnel and professionals knowledgeable in the field of sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) systematically reviewed evidence (including published abstracts and peer-reviewed journal articles) concerning each of the major STDs, focusing on information that had become available since publication of the *Sexually Transmitted Diseases Treatment Guidelines, 2002*. Background papers were written and tables of evidence constructed summarizing the type of study (e.g., randomized controlled trial or case series), study population and setting, treatments or other interventions, outcome measures assessed, reported findings, and weaknesses and biases in study design and analysis. A draft document was developed on the basis of the reviews.

## **METHODS USED TO FORMULATE THE RECOMMENDATIONS**

Expert Consensus (Consensus Development Conference)

## **DESCRIPTION OF METHODS USED TO FORMULATE THE RECOMMENDATIONS**

In April 2005, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) staff members and invited consultants assembled in Atlanta, Georgia, for a 3-day meeting to present the key questions regarding sexually transmitted disease (STD) treatment that emerged from the evidence-based reviews and the information available to answer those questions. When relevant, the questions focused on four principal outcomes of STD therapy for each individual disease: 1) microbiologic cure, 2) alleviation of signs and symptoms, 3) prevention of sequelae, and 4) prevention of transmission. Cost-effectiveness and other advantages (e.g., single-dose formulations and directly observed therapy of

specific regimens) also were discussed. The consultants then assessed whether the questions identified were relevant, ranked them in order of priority, and attempted to arrive at answers using the available evidence. In addition, the consultants evaluated the quality of evidence supporting the answers on the basis of the number, type, and quality of the studies.

## **RATING SCHEME FOR THE STRENGTH OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS**

Not applicable

## **COST ANALYSIS**

A formal cost analysis was not performed and published cost analyses were not reviewed.

## **METHOD OF GUIDELINE VALIDATION**

Peer Review

## **DESCRIPTION OF METHOD OF GUIDELINE VALIDATION**

Not stated

# **RECOMMENDATIONS**

## **MAJOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

**Note from the National Guideline Clearinghouse (NGC) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC):** When more than one therapeutic regimen is recommended, the sequence is alphabetized unless the choices for therapy are prioritized based on efficacy, convenience, or cost. For sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) with more than one recommended regimen, almost all regimens have similar efficacy and similar rates of intolerance or toxicity unless otherwise specified.

Effective prevention and detection of congenital syphilis depends on the identification of syphilis in pregnant women and, therefore, on the routine serologic screening of pregnant women during the first prenatal visit. In communities and populations in which the risk for congenital syphilis is high, serologic testing and a sexual history also should be obtained at 28 weeks' gestation and at delivery. Moreover, as part of the management of pregnant women who have syphilis, information concerning treatment of sex partners should be obtained to assess the risk for reinfection. All pregnant women who have syphilis should be tested for human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection. Routine screening of newborn sera or umbilical cord blood is not recommended. Serologic testing of the mother's serum is preferred rather than testing of the infant's serum because the serologic tests performed on infant serum can be nonreactive if the mother's serologic test result is of low titer or if the mother was infected late in pregnancy (see Diagnostic Considerations and Use of Serologic Tests above). No infant or mother should leave the hospital unless the maternal serologic status has been documented at least once during pregnancy and at

delivery in communities and populations in which the risk for congenital syphilis is high.

### **Evaluation and Treatment of Infants in the First Month of Life**

The diagnosis of congenital syphilis is complicated by the transplacental transfer of maternal nontreponemal and treponemal immunoglobulin G (IgG) antibodies to the fetus. This transfer of antibodies makes the interpretation of reactive serologic tests for syphilis in infants difficult. Treatment decisions frequently must be made on the basis of 1) identification of syphilis in the mother; 2) adequacy of maternal treatment; 3) presence of clinical, laboratory, or radiographic evidence of syphilis in the infant; and 4) comparison of maternal (at delivery) and infant nontreponemal serologic titers using the same test and preferably the same laboratory.

All infants born to mothers who have reactive nontreponemal and treponemal test results should be evaluated with a quantitative nontreponemal serologic test (rapid plasma reagin [RPR] or Venereal Disease Research Laboratory [VDRL]) performed on infant serum, because umbilical cord blood can become contaminated with maternal blood and could yield a false-positive result. Conducting a treponemal test (i.e., *Treponema pallidum* particle agglutination [TP-PA] or fluorescent treponemal antibody absorbed [FTA-ABS]) on a newborn's serum is not necessary. No commercially available immunoglobulin M (IgM) test can be recommended.

All infants born to women who have reactive serologic tests for syphilis should be examined thoroughly for evidence of congenital syphilis (e.g., nonimmune hydrops, jaundice, hepatosplenomegaly, rhinitis, skin rash, and/or pseudoparalysis of an extremity). Pathologic examination of the placenta or umbilical cord using specific fluorescent antitreponemal antibody staining is suggested. Darkfield microscopic examination or direct fluorescent antibody (DFA) staining of suspicious lesions or body fluids (e.g., nasal discharge) also should be performed.

The following scenarios describe the evaluation and treatment of infants for congenital syphilis.

#### **Scenario 1. Infants with proven or highly probable disease**

1. an abnormal physical examination that is consistent with congenital syphilis
2. a serum quantitative nontreponemal serologic titer that is fourfold greater than the mother's titer (*Note: The absence of a fourfold or greater titer for an infant does not exclude congenital syphilis*); or
3. a positive darkfield or fluorescent antibody test of body fluid(s)

#### **Recommended Evaluation**

- Cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) analysis for VDRL, cell count, and protein. (*Note: CSF test results obtained during the neonatal period can be difficult to interpret; normal values differ by gestational age and are higher in preterm infants. Values as high as 25 white blood cells (WBCs)/mm<sup>3</sup> and/or protein of*

*150 mg/dL might occur among normal neonates; some specialists, however, recommend that lower values (i.e., 5 WBCs/mm<sup>3</sup> and protein of 40 mg/dL) be considered the upper limits of normal. Other causes of elevated values also should be considered when an infant is being evaluated for congenital syphilis.)*

- Complete blood count (CBC) and differential and platelet count.
- Other tests as clinically indicated (e.g., long-bone radiographs, chest radiograph, liver-function tests, cranial ultrasound, ophthalmologic examination, and auditory brainstem response).

### **Recommended Regimens**

**Aqueous crystalline penicillin G** 100,000-150,000 units/kg/day, administered as 50,000 units/kg/dose intravenously (IV) every 12 hours during the first 7 days of life and every 8 hours thereafter for a total of 10 days

**OR**

**Procaine penicillin G** 50,000 units/kg/dose intramuscularly (IM) in a single daily dose for 10 days.

If more than 1 day of therapy is missed, the entire course should be restarted. Data are insufficient regarding the use of other antimicrobial agents (e.g., ampicillin). When possible, a full 10-day course of penicillin is preferred, even if ampicillin was initially provided for possible sepsis. The use of agents other than penicillin requires close serologic follow-up to assess adequacy of therapy. In all other situations, the maternal history of infection with *T. pallidum* and treatment for syphilis must be considered when evaluating and treating the infant.

### **Scenario 2. Infants who have a normal physical examination and a serum quantitative nontreponemal serologic titer the same or less than fourfold the maternal titer and the**

1. mother was not treated, inadequately treated, or has no documentation of having received treatment
2. mother was treated with erythromycin or other nonpenicillin regimen (*Note: A woman treated with a regimen other than those recommended in the guidelines for treatment should be considered untreated*)
3. mother received treatment <4 weeks before delivery; or

### **Recommended Evaluation**

- CSF analysis for VDRL, cell count, and protein
- CBC and differential and platelet count
- Long-bone radiographs

A complete evaluation is not necessary if 10 days of parenteral therapy is administered. However, such evaluation might be useful; a lumbar puncture might document CSF abnormalities that would prompt close follow-up. Other tests (e.g., CBC, platelet count, and bone radiographs) may be performed to further support

a diagnosis of congenital syphilis. If a single dose of benzathine penicillin G is used, then the infant must be fully evaluated (i.e., through CSF examination, long-bone radiographs, and CBC with platelets), the full evaluation must be normal, and follow-up must be certain. If any part of the infant's evaluation is abnormal or not performed, or if the CSF fluid analysis is rendered uninterpretable because of contamination with blood, then a 10-day course of penicillin is required. *(Note: If the infant's nontreponemal test is nonreactive and the likelihood of the infant being infected is low, certain specialists recommend no evaluation but treatment of the infant with a single intramuscular (IM) dose of benzathine penicillin G 50,000 units/kg for possible incubating syphilis, after which the infant should receive close serologic follow-up.)*

### **Recommended Regimens**

**Aqueous crystalline penicillin G** 100,000-150,000 units/kg/day, administered as 50,000 units/kg/dose IV every 12 hours during the first 7 days of life and every 8 hours thereafter for a total of 10 days

**OR**

**Procaine penicillin G** 50,000 units/kg/dose IM in a single daily dose for 10 days

**OR**

**Benzathine penicillin G** 50,000 units/kg/dose IM in a single dose

Some specialists prefer the 10 days of parenteral therapy if the mother has untreated early syphilis at delivery.

### **Scenario 3. Infants who have a normal physical examination and a serum quantitative nontreponemal serologic titer the same or less than fourfold the maternal titer and the**

1. mother was treated during pregnancy, treatment was appropriate for the stage of infection, and treatment was administered >4 weeks before delivery; and
2. mother has no evidence of reinfection or relapse

### **Recommended Evaluation**

No evaluation is required.

### **Recommended Regimen**

**Benzathine penicillin G** 50,000 units/kg/dose IM in single dose.  
*(Note: Some specialists would not treat the infant but would provide close serologic follow-up in those whose mother's nontreponemal titers decreased fourfold after appropriate therapy for early syphilis or remained stable or low for late syphilis.)*



**Scenario 4. Infants who have a normal physical examination and a serum quantitative nontreponemal serologic titer the same or less than fourfold the maternal titer and the**

1. mother's treatment was adequate before pregnancy and
2. mother's nontreponemal serologic titer remained low and stable before and during pregnancy and at delivery (VDRL <1:2; RPR <1:4)

***Recommended Evaluation***

No evaluation is required.

***Recommended Regimen***

No treatment is required; however, some specialists would treat with benzathine penicillin G 50,000 units/kg as a single IM injection, particularly if follow-up is uncertain.

**Evaluation and Treatment of Older Infants and Children**

Children who are identified as having reactive serologic tests for syphilis after the neonatal period (i.e., aged >1 month) should have maternal serology and records reviewed to assess whether the child has congenital or acquired syphilis (for acquired syphilis, see the National Guideline Clearinghouse [NGC] summary of the CDC guideline [Diseases Characterized by Genital Ulcers](#), sections on Primary and Secondary Syphilis and Latent Syphilis and the NGC summary of the CDC guideline [Sexual Assault and STDs](#). Any child at risk for congenital syphilis should receive a full evaluation and testing for HIV infection.

**Recommended Evaluation**

- CSF analysis for VDRL, cell count, and protein
- CBC, differential, and platelet count
- Other tests as clinically indicated (e.g., long-bone radiographs, chest radiograph, liver function tests, abdominal ultrasound, ophthalmologic examination, and auditory brain stem response)

***Recommended Regimens***

**Aqueous crystalline penicillin G** 200,000-300,000 units/kg/day IV, administered as 50,000 units/kg every 4-6 hours for 10 days.

If the child has no clinical manifestations of disease, the CSF examination is normal, and the CSF VDRL test result is negative, some specialists would treat with up to 3 weekly doses of benzathine penicillin G, 50,000 units/kg IM.

Any child who is suspected of having congenital syphilis or who has neurologic involvement should be treated with aqueous penicillin G. Some specialists also suggest giving these patients a single dose of benzathine penicillin G, 50,000 units/kg IM following the 10-day course of IV aqueous penicillin. This treatment also would be adequate for children who might have other treponemal infections.

## **Follow-Up**

All seroreactive infants (or infants whose mothers were seroreactive at delivery) should receive careful follow-up examinations and serologic testing (i.e., a nontreponemal test) every 2-3 months until the test becomes nonreactive or the titer has decreased fourfold. Nontreponemal antibody titers should decline by age 3 months and should be nonreactive by age 6 months if the infant was not infected (i.e., if the reactive test result was caused by passive transfer of maternal immunoglobulin G antibody) or was infected but adequately treated. The serologic response after therapy may be slower for infants treated after the neonatal period. If these titers are stable or increase after 6-12 months of age, the child should be evaluated (e.g., given a CSF examination) and treated with a 10-day course of parenteral penicillin G.

Treponemal tests should not be used to evaluate treatment response because the results for an infected child can remain positive despite effective therapy. Passively transferred maternal treponemal antibodies can be present in an infant until age 15 months. A reactive treponemal test after age 18 months is diagnostic of congenital syphilis. If the nontreponemal test is nonreactive at this time, no further evaluation or treatment is necessary. If the nontreponemal test is reactive at age 18 months, the infant should be fully (re)evaluated and treated for congenital syphilis.

Infants whose initial CSF evaluations are abnormal should undergo a repeat lumbar puncture approximately every 6 months until the results are normal. A reactive CSF VDRL or abnormal CSF indices that cannot be attributed to other ongoing illness requires re-treatment for possible neurosyphilis.

Follow-up of children treated for congenital syphilis after the newborn period should be conducted as is recommended for neonates.

## **Special Considerations**

### ***Penicillin Allergy***

Infants and children who require treatment for syphilis but who have a history of penicillin allergy or develop an allergic reaction presumed secondary to penicillin should be desensitized, if necessary, and then treated with penicillin (see the NGC summary of the CDC guideline [Management of Patients With a History of Penicillin Allergy](#)). Data are insufficient regarding the use of other antimicrobial agents (e.g., ceftriaxone); if a nonpenicillin agent is used, close serologic and CSF follow-up are indicated.

### ***HIV Infection***

Evidence is insufficient to determine whether infants who have congenital syphilis and whose mothers are coinfectd with HIV require different evaluation, therapy, or follow-up for syphilis than is recommended for all infants.

### ***Penicillin Shortage***

During periods when the availability of penicillin is compromised, the following is recommended (see <http://www.cdc.gov/nchstp/dstd/penicillinG.htm>):

1. For infants with clinical evidence of congenital syphilis (Scenario 1 above), check local sources for aqueous crystalline penicillin G (potassium or sodium). If IV penicillin G is limited, substitute some or all daily doses with procaine penicillin G (50,000 units/kg/dose IM a day in a single daily dose for 10 days).

If aqueous or procaine penicillin G is not available, ceftriaxone (in doses according to age and weight) may be considered with careful clinical and serologic follow-up. Ceftriaxone must be used with caution in infants with jaundice. For infants aged  $\geq 30$  days, use 75 mg/kg IV/IM a day in a single daily dose for 10 to 14 days; however, dose adjustment might be necessary based on birthweight. For older infants, the dose should be 100 mg/kg a day in a single daily dose. Studies that strongly support ceftriaxone for the treatment of congenital syphilis have not been conducted. Therefore, ceftriaxone should be used in consultation with a specialist in the treatment of infants with congenital syphilis. Management may include a repeat CSF examination at age 6 months if the initial examination was abnormal.

2. For infants at risk for congenital syphilis without any clinical evidence of infection (Scenarios 2 and 3 above), use
  - a. procaine penicillin G, 50,000 units/kg/dose IM a day in a single dose for 10 days

**OR**

- b. benzathine penicillin G, 50,000 units/kg IM as a single dose.

If any part of the evaluation for congenital syphilis is abnormal, CSF examination is not interpretable, CSF examination was not performed, or follow-up is uncertain, Procaine penicillin G is recommended. A single dose of ceftriaxone is inadequate therapy.

3. For premature infants at risk for congenital syphilis but who have no other clinical evidence of infection (Scenarios 2 and 3 above) and who might not tolerate IM injections because of decreased muscle mass, IV ceftriaxone may be considered with careful clinical and serologic follow-up (see Penicillin Shortage, Number 1 above). Ceftriaxone dosing must be adjusted to age and birthweight.

## **CLINICAL ALGORITHM(S)**

None provided

## **EVIDENCE SUPPORTING THE RECOMMENDATIONS**

## **TYPE OF EVIDENCE SUPPORTING THE RECOMMENDATIONS**

The type of supporting evidence is not specifically stated for each recommendation.

Throughout the 2006 guideline document, the evidence used as the basis for specific recommendations is discussed briefly. More comprehensive, annotated discussions of such evidence will appear in background papers that will be published in a supplement issue of the journal *Clinical Infectious Diseases*.

## **BENEFITS/HARMS OF IMPLEMENTING THE GUIDELINE RECOMMENDATIONS**

### **POTENTIAL BENEFITS**

Effective prevention, detection, and treatment of congenital syphilis

### **POTENTIAL HARMS**

- Penicillin can cause allergic reactions in penicillin-allergic patients
- Ceftriaxone must be used with caution in infants with jaundice; dose adjustment might be necessary based on age and birthweight.

## **QUALIFYING STATEMENTS**

### **QUALIFYING STATEMENTS**

- These recommendations were developed in consultation with public- and private-sector professionals knowledgeable in the treatment of patients with sexually transmitted diseases (STDs). The recommendations are applicable to various patient-care settings, including family planning clinics, private physicians' offices, managed care organizations, and other primary-care facilities.
- These recommendations are meant to serve as a source of clinical guidance: health-care providers should always consider the individual clinical circumstances of each person in the context of local disease prevalence. These guidelines focus on the treatment and counseling of individual patients and do not address other community services and interventions that are important in STD/human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) prevention.

## **IMPLEMENTATION OF THE GUIDELINE**

### **DESCRIPTION OF IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY**

An implementation strategy was not provided.

### **IMPLEMENTATION TOOLS**

Personal Digital Assistant (PDA) Downloads

For information about [availability](#), see the "Availability of Companion Documents" and "Patient Resources" fields below.

## INSTITUTE OF MEDICINE (IOM) NATIONAL HEALTHCARE QUALITY REPORT CATEGORIES

### IOM CARE NEED

Getting Better  
Staying Healthy

### IOM DOMAIN

Effectiveness  
Timeliness

## IDENTIFYING INFORMATION AND AVAILABILITY

### BIBLIOGRAPHIC SOURCE(S)

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Workowski KA, Berman SM.  
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MMWR Morb Mortal Wkly Rep 2006 Aug 4;55(RR-11):30-3. [222 references]

### ADAPTATION

Not applicable: The guideline was not adapted from another source.

### DATE RELEASED

1993 (revised 2006 Aug 4)

### GUIDELINE DEVELOPER(S)

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention - Federal Government Agency [U.S.]

### GUIDELINE DEVELOPER COMMENT

These guidelines for the treatment of persons who have sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) were developed by CDC after consultation with a group of professionals knowledgeable in the field of STDs who met in Atlanta, Georgia, during April 19–21, 2005.

### SOURCE(S) OF FUNDING

United States Government

### GUIDELINE COMMITTEE

Not stated

### COMPOSITION OF GROUP THAT AUTHORED THE GUIDELINE

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## **FINANCIAL DISCLOSURES/CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**

Not stated

## **GUIDELINE STATUS**

This is the current release of the guideline.

This guideline updates a previous version: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Congenital syphilis. Sexually transmitted diseases treatment guidelines. MMWR Recomm Rep 2002 May 10;51(RR-6):26-8.

## **GUIDELINE AVAILABILITY**

Electronic copies: Available from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Web site:

- [HTML Format](#)
- [Portable Document Format \(PDF\)](#)

Print copies: Available from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, MMWR, Atlanta, GA 30333. Additional copies can be purchased from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402-9325; (202) 783-3238.

## **AVAILABILITY OF COMPANION DOCUMENTS**

The following are available:

- Workowski KA, Levine WC, Wasserheit JN. U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines for the treatment of sexually transmitted diseases: an opportunity to unify clinical and public health practice. Ann Intern Med. 2002 Aug 20;137(4):255-62. Electronic copies: Available through [Annals of Internal Medicine Online](#).
- The CDC Sexually Transmitted Diseases Treatment Guidelines 2004 for PDA or Palm OS. Available from the [CDC National Prevention Information Network \(NPIN\) Web site](#).

## **PATIENT RESOURCES**

None available



## **NGC STATUS**

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